1972

Witchcraft,
Satanism &
weirdo
in
England

10/5/71

NEW YORK POST, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1971 82

Kills Herself To Protest Vivisection

LONDON—A woman who loved animals has taken her own life in a protest against the way pets are used for medical experiments.

Police believe Mrs. Olive Parry, 66, turned herself into a human torch in a churchyard yesterday—St. Francis' Day.

St. Francis is the patron saint of animals.

Three Royal Air Force men waiting for a lift saw Mrs. Parry—her clothing doused with paraffin and blazing furiously—in the grounds of St. John's Church at Worcester. But they were too late to do anything except raise the alarm.

Later police found a note nearby in which Mrs. Parry condemned vivisection and referred to a "last protest" on St. Francis Day.

Neighbors said Mrs. Parry was "fanatically" interested in anti-vivisection and regularly delivered leaflets opposing experiments on animals around the estate where she lived in Ontarion, near Worcester.

LONDON EXPRESS

TODAY'S TV MOVIES

[*Asterisks denote critical ratings, where available. **** is excellent, *** good, ** fair and * poor.*]

4:30 p.m.—(7) "Robin and the Seven Hoods" Part II **** (1964) (90 mins.) Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., Peter Falk, Bing Crosby. Two rival gangs fight for supremacy in the Chicago of the '20s.

8:30—(7) "The Last Child" (1971) (90 mins.) Michael Cole, Janet Margolin, Van Heflin, Harry Guardino. It's 1994 and the government says no more babies. (9) "Solid Gold Cadillac" *** (1956) (120 mins.) Judy Holliday, Paul Douglas, Fred Clark. Large corporation vs. a stockholder who knows her rights. (b&w)

11:00—(11) "Guns of the Timberland" ** (1960) (90 mins.) Alan Ladd, Jeanne Crain. Ranchers battle the logging inerests.

11:30—(5) "Four Skulls of Jonathan Drake" ** (1959)

Miami News
5/18/72

themselves to be Democrats.

'Witches' object to exorcists

By PAUL MAJENDIE
Reuters News Service

LONDON — Alex Sanders and his blonde young wife Maxine are two very irate witches.

They feel the Church of England, which has just been advised to start training professional exorcists to drive out evil spirits, is trying to blacken the name of their profession.

The target for their rage is a commission of churchmen, which in April investigated growing interest throughout Britian in witchcraft.

The head of the commission was the Bishop of Exeter, Dr. Robert Mortimer, who said more people were turning away from the church to black magic. He recommended that every bishop have his own diocesan exorcist, who would be a priest with special training.

Alex Sanders, billed as the king of witches in his occult-style cabaret act which tours the country, called the commission "a personal affront to most witches because we are not anti-Christian."

Sanders, 46, is at present busy setting up a school for trainee witches in his small country cottage south of London.

"I teach them the whole theological background of witchcraft and then, depending on how absorbent the person is, they are initiated," he said.

The initiation ceremony — the subject of many lurid photographs in tabloid newspaper features on witchcraft — involves the witch-to-be standing nude and having a ritual whipping before he or she swears an oath of allegiance.

Post 7-12-71

Three Campers Found Slain

MOULDWORTH, England (AP)—Three French tourists —a man and two women— were found murdered at a camping site near this quiet Cheshire village in northwest England today, police reported.

Police said they believed the two girls were sisters. All the victims were in their early 20s.

The bodies were discovered by a local resident during an early morning stroll.

Police withheld names and addresses of the victims.

One of the girls was found on the grassy edge of the roadway. She was naked and had been savagely beaten.

Inside a tent was the body of a bearded man, also badly battered. Next to him was a girl in a sleeping bag suffering serious injuries. She died later in a hospital.

The scene of the murder was at the edge of the Delamere Forest, a favorite picnic spot.

NEW YORK POST, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1977 32

England's Going to The Devil

By ANTHONY COLLINGS

LONDON (AP) — Black magic is spreading across England, upsetting village vicars and serious witches alike.

"All this devil worship is attracting people to the wrong sort of cult," complained Mrs. Eleanor Bone, a "white' witch who says the only spells she casts are good ones that help in such ways as trying to remove warts.

Mrs. Bone runs a coven—six couples, plus Mrs. Bone as priestess — in the London suburb of Tooting Bec.

Evil spells, she says, have no place in their monthly dances around a fire, but amateur dabbling in the black arts is getting them a bad name.

Church leaders are similarly worried about the growing interest in the occult.

"We are frightened of what seems to be a steady and continuing growth in the popularity of witchcraft and devil worship," said a Church of England spokesman. "And it is frightening to realize it is attracting young people."

Bizarre Events

There have been a number of bizarre events in England, apparently linked to the black magic craze.

A child's body was stolen from a grave. A young man hanged himself after his girl friend hexed him. Another youth was charged with murder after the body of an earl's grandson was found next to a bloodstained letter containing the words "Hail Satan." The letter also had the Lord's Prayer written backwards, a favorite black magic incantation.

"This is a problem that the Church has not met for the past 200 years," the Rev. Tom Willis told an Anglican Church synod last weekend. "But priests are now finding all over the country that they are having to cast out devils and evil spirits.

"People are turning away from material things like cars and refrigerators . . . The supernatural is gaining ascendancy."

Con Men Cash In

Police say some members of the score or so of black magic groups in the Londen area, who dance naked and conduct perverted church services, are respectable businessmen

And con men have cashed in on the growing interest in the occult. A Birmingham "faith healer" got an eight-year jail sentence for defrauding women of 670 pounds — $1670 — by "removing evil spirits" through such techniques as anointing them and having sexual intercourse with them.

Mrs. Bone, the white witch, protests about the dabblers in the occult: "There are just too many half-baked groups springing up." She says her own coven tries to help people and asks no money for its services.

4-20-72 N.Y. Post

A Hotfoot for the Devil

LONDON (AP) — The Bishop of Exeter called on the Church of England today to set up training programs for exorcists, so that every diocese could have its own expert at driving out the devil.

"The need for the restoration of the practice of exorcism to its proper place is becoming steadily more urgent and more evident," wrote the Most Rev. Robert Mortimer in his report of a 10-year unofficial study.

The Bishop said the church knew little about the occult today even though more Britons were turning toward black magic as their interest in traditional religion declined.

To fight the trend, Bishop Mortimer suggested, every diocesan bishop should appoint an exorcist and organize training schedules in cooperation with Roman Catholic churchmen.

"The general attitude in the Church of England seems to be to regard exorcism as an exercise in white magic or a survival of medieval superstition," he said.

"Its positive aspect as an extension of the frontiers of Christ's kingdom and a demonstration of the power to the Resurrection to overcome evil and replace it with good is overlooked."

The Times
Part 6
Thurs., Nov. 23, 1972

IN THIS SECTION:

Lester Maddox is still one of Georgia's best-known politicians. Page 8.

The job of an organizer is, at best, a lonely one. It's usually a thankless one as well. Page 16.

MYTH OR MAGIC?

Witchcraft Still Thrives in England

BY TOM LAMBERT
Times Staff Writer

LONDON—The National Theater's new production of "Macbeth" opened here last week, and Anthony Hopkins in the title role and Diana Rigg as Lady Macbeth and Dennis Quilley as Banquo all won plaudits, and so did the witches.

The review attention paid to Shakespeare's raggedy old women — they acted out the sacrifice of a baby to open the play, but did not dance around a caldron—will please many non-playgoers in this country. Because Britain is intrigued with witches and their doings and has been for centuries.

Interest in witches takes different forms here.

Encyclopedic Magazine

About two years ago, a London publishing firm launched a magazine called "Man, Myth and Magic" devoted in good part to witchcraft and the occult. Within three months sales totaled 300,000 copies weekly. The magazine was discontinued not long after, a firm spokesman said, when its projected schedule of articles was concluded after running alphabetically from "abracadabra" to "zombie."

But several weeks ago in Bedford, Judge Robert